setts to Georgia. It is the Asclepias decumbens of Walter.

This genus has a *five parted calyx; a five parted reflexed corolla; a nectary of five erect, cucullate leaves, each producing an inflected horn from its cavity; stamens united, with ten pollen masses hanging by pairs in their cavities.* The species *tuberosa* is *hairy, its leaves alternate, oblong-lanceolate; its branches cymose.*

Class *Pentandria*, order *Digynia*. Natural orders *Contortæ*, L. *Apocineæ*, Juss.

The root of this plant is large, fleshy, branching, and often somewhat fusiform. It is only by comparison with the other species that it can be called tuberous. The stems are numerous, growing in bunches from the root. They are erect, ascending or procumbent, round, hairy, green or red. Leaves scattered, the lower ones peduculated, the upper ones sessile. They are narrow, oblong, hairy, obtuse at base, waved on the edge, and in the old plants sometimes revolute. The stem usually divides at top into from two to four branches, which give off crowded umbels from their upper side. The involucrum consists of numerous, short, subulate leafets. Flowers numerous, erect, of a beautifully bright orange colour. Calyx much smaller than the corolla, five parted,



the segments subulate, reflexed and concealed by the corolla. Corolla five parted, reflexed, the segments oblong. The nectary or stamineal crown is formed of five erect, cucullate leaves or cups, with an oblique mouth, having a small, incurved, acute horn proceeding from the base of the cavity of each and meeting at the centre of the flower. The mass of stamens is a tough, horny, somewhat pyramidal substance, separable into five anthers. Each of these is bordered by membranous, reflected edges contiguous to those of the next, and terminated by a membranous, reflected summit. Internally they have two cells. The pollen forms ten distinct, yellowish, transparent bodies, of a flat and spatulate form, ending in curved filaments, which unite them by pairs to a minute dark tubercle at top. Each pair is suspended in the cells of two adjoining anthers, so that if a needle be inserted between the membranous edges of two anthers and forced out at top, it carries with it a pair of the pollen masses. Pistils two, completely concealed within the mass of anthers. Germs ovate, with erect styles. The fruit, as in other species, is an erect lanceolate follicle on a sigmoid peduncle. In this it is green, with a reddish tinge and downy. Seeds ovate, flat, margined, connected to the receptacle by long silken hairs. Receptacle longitudinal, loose, chaffy.

JACOB BIGELOW *American Medical Botany* BOSTON, 1817-1820 CARY GRAPHIC ARTS COLLECTION, ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY Octavo